

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

DECEMBER 15, 2015

On Friday October 23, 2015, conditions of disaster arose as a result of the discovery of a leak at the natural gas storage wells at Aliso Canyon storage field affecting the City and County of Los Angeles. The site is adjacent to residential properties in the Porter Ranch neighborhood. Daily complaints are being received from residents regarding strong odors from the Aliso Canyon site. Over 1000 odor complaints have also been logged by the South Coast Air Quality Management District. Common health complaints include nausea, dizziness, vomiting, shortness of breath, and headaches. Complaints are associated with the detection of sulfur-type odors. These health complaints are consistent with inhalational exposure to mercaptans. It should be understood that odors alone can be directly responsible for health effects, and that these health effects currently reported by area residents are consistent with exposure to mercaptans. Due to these conditions over 2800 inquiries have been made about relocation and over 1000 residents have been relocated.

Due to the leak several County of Los Angeles Departments have engaged in response and monitoring activities, participation in daily conference calls, attending community meetings and fielding telephone calls from residents. The increasing number of concerned and displaced residents, health concerns in the community and the uncertainty of when the well will be capped

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RIDLEY-THOMAS \_\_\_\_\_

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has necessitated the proclamation of the existence of a local emergency within Los Angeles County.

This emergency will require ongoing assessment and monitoring of the impacted area to ensure the safety of all residents as well as all personnel including law enforcement, fire, public health and public works as they conduct on-going assessment and monitoring in addition to the efforts by state and federal agencies along with the private industry.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board:

1. Ratify the attached proclamation made on December 10, 2015 for the natural gas leak discovered in the Aliso Canyon on October 23, 2015. This proclamation shall remain in effect until its termination is proclaimed by the Board;
2. Forward a copy of the proclamation to the Director of California Governor's Office of Emergency Services with the request that the Director find it acceptable in accordance with State law; and request that a Governor's Proclamation be provided under the California Disaster Assistance Act; and
3. Direct County Departments to implement all assessment and monitoring efforts as applicable.

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**PROCLAMATION OF EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY BY THE CHAIR OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AND REQUEST FOR A STATE PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, Chapter 2.68 of the Los Angeles County Code empowers the Chair of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors to proclaim the existence of a local emergency when the County is affected or likely to be affected by a public calamity and the Board of Supervisors is not in session; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chair of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors finds that beginning October 23, 2015, conditions of disaster arose as a result of the discovery of a leak at the natural gas storage wells at Aliso Canyon storage field affecting the City and County of Los Angeles which has created conditions that are beyond the control of local resources; and

**WHEREAS**, the leak has resulted in the displacement of residents from their homes, health-related issues for residents, and air quality issues in the area surrounding the gas leak; and

**WHEREAS**, these conditions warrant and necessitate that the County proclaim the existence of a local emergency;

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED** by the Chair of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors that a local emergency exists throughout Los Angeles County, and that if the Board does not take action to ratify this emergency proclamation within seven days of its issuance, it shall have no further force or effect;

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND PROCLAIMED** that during the existence of said local emergency the powers, functions, and duties of the emergency organization of the County shall be those prescribed by state law, by ordinances, and resolutions of the County; and

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND PROCLAIMED** that a copy of this proclamation be forwarded to the Director of California Governor's Office of Emergency Services requesting that the Director find it acceptable in accordance with State law; that the Governor of California, pursuant to the Emergency Services Act, issue a proclamation declaring an emergency in Los Angeles County; that the Governor waive regulations that may hinder response and recovery efforts; that recovery assistance be made available under the California Disaster Assistance Act; and that the State expedite access to State and Federal resources and any other appropriate federal disaster relief programs.

Date: December 10, 2015



**Hilda L. Solis**  
**Chair, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors**